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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

LANIER, BENJAMIN E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2132

DATE MAILED: 09/11/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/337,964

Applicant(s)

VANDERGEEST, RONALD J.

Examiner

Benjamin E Lanier

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 June 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 1,25, and 44 are recites the limitation "received key attribute data" in claim 1,25, and 44. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

3. Claim 39 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-3, 5-10, 13-15, 18-20, 23-25, 27-31, 34-36, 38, 40, 42-44, 46, and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Linehan, U.S. Patent No. 5,495,533. Referring to claims 1-3, 14, 24, 25, 36, 40, 44, and 46, Linehan discloses a personal key archive containing a client, server, key generator, and a personal key database which acts as a security key manifest in that it contains an entry for each file that is to be accessed, each of these entries are indexed by information that identifies the files, and each entry contains the key used to encrypt the corresponding file (Col. 7, lines 39-45). In this personal key archive a client of an

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accessing user sends a ticket and data file identification data (key attribute data) to the server. The server checks the ticket and sends the key corresponding to the data file to the client of the accessing user. The client of the accessing user uses the key to decrypt the encrypted data file (Abstract, Col 5, lines 9-16).

Referring to claims 5, 35, 38, and 48, Linehan discloses a client that sends a ticket and data file identification data to the server. The server checks the ticket and sends the key corresponding to the data file (key usage) to the client of the accessing user (Abstract, Col. 5, lines 9-16).

Referring to claims 6, 10, 20, and 31, Linehan discloses a client that, when a file is renamed or any identifying information is changed, sends the new and old filenames, or other identifying data) to the server so that the server can update the key database (manifest) (Col. 8, lines 1-6).

Referring to claim 7, Linehan discloses a server that would generate the update file encryption key to be stored in the database (manifest) (Col. 8, lines 37-45).

Referring to claims 8, 18, and 29, Linehan discloses a key database (manifest) capable of checking the files and generating new keys for any file at any time (Col. 9, lines 2-10).

Referring to claims 9, 19, and 30, Linehan discloses encrypting the key database (manifest) with a key and userid, and validating the userid in an authentication ticket against userid contained in the database. After authentication database (manifest) is decrypted (Col. 16, lines 13-27).

Referring to claims 13, 23, and 34, Linehan discloses using symmetric data encryption methods (Col. 1, line 50).

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Referring to claim 15, Linehan discloses a personal key archive where a client of an accessing user sends a ticket and data file identification data (key attribute data) to the server. The server checks the ticket and sends the key corresponding to the data file (key usage) to the client of the accessing user. The client of the accessing user uses the key to decrypt the encrypted data file (Abstract, Col 5, lines 9-16). The client, when a file is renamed or any identifying information is changed, sends the new and old filenames, or other identifying data, to the server so that the server can update the key database (manifest) (Col. 8, lines 1-6). The server can generate an updated file encryption key to be stored in the database (manifest) (Col. 8, lines 37-45). The key database is capable of checking the files and generating new keys for any file at any time (Col. 9, lines 2-10).

Referring to claims 27, 28, 42, and 43, Linehan discloses a client that, when a file is renamed or any identifying information is changed, sends the new and old filenames, or other identifying data) to the server so that the server can update the key database (manifest) (Col. 8, lines 1-6), and the server can generate the update file encryption key to be stored in the database (manifest) (Col. 8, lines 37-45).

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 4, 16, 37, and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Linehan, U.S. Patent No. 5,495,533, in view of Peterson, U.S. Publication No. 2001/0003828.

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Referring to claims 4, 16, 37, and 47, Linehan discloses a personal key archive containing a client, server, key generator, and key database (manifest) where a client of an accessing user sends a ticket and data file identification data (key attribute data) to the server. The server checks the ticket and sends the key corresponding to the data file to the client of the accessing user. The client of the accessing user uses the key to decrypt the encrypted data file (Abstract, Col 5, lines 9-16). Linehan does not disclose a method allowing the subscriber to access the data either by push or pull based access. Peterson discloses a distribution system capable of pull-base architecture, push-based architecture (Page 4, paragraph [0046]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use push-based and pull-based architectures in the person key archive of Linehan in order to support different transfer architectures as taught in Peterson (Page 4, paragraph [0046]).

8. Claims 11, 12, 17, 21, 22, 26, 32, 33, 41, and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Linehan, U.S. Patent No. 5,495,533, in view of Spies, U.S. Patent No. 6,230,269. Referring to claims 11, 21, and 32, Linehan discloses a personal key archive containing a client, server, key generator, and key database (manifest) where a client of an accessing user sends a ticket and data file identification data (key attribute data) to the server. The server checks the ticket and sends the key corresponding to the data file to the client of the accessing user. The client of the accessing user uses the key to decrypt the encrypted data file (Abstract, Col 5, lines 9-16). Linehan does not disclose the encryption key as a key pair. Spies discloses an authentication system where once a user is authenticated, they receive a public/private key pair (Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a public/private key pair in the personal key archive of

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Linehan in order to accommodate both point-of-access authentication and authentication between participants who communicate over a network as taught in Spies (Col. 1, lines 44-50).

Referring to claims 17, 26, 41, and 45, Linehan discloses a personal key archive containing a client, server, key generator, and key database (manifest) where a client can, when a file is renamed or any identifying information is changed, send the new and old filenames of a file, or other identifying data) to the server so that the server can update the key database (Col. 8, lines 1-6). The server can then generate an updated file encryption key to be stored in the database (manifest) (Col. 8, lines 37-45). Linehan does not disclose the generation of an updated file encryption key pair. Spies discloses an authentication system where once a user is authenticated, they receive a public/private key pair (Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a public/private key pair in the personal key archive of Linehan in order to accommodate both point-of-access authentication and authentication between participants who communicate over a network as taught in Spies (Col. 1, lines 44-50).

Referring to claims 12, 22, and 33, Linehan discloses a personal key archive containing a client, server, key generator, and key database (manifest) wherein the server generates authentication data in the form of a ticket that enables the client to access file data (Col. 3, lines 12-21). Linehan further discloses the client receiving a key corresponding to the data file upon validation of the ticket (Abstract, Col 5, lines 9-16). Linehan does not disclose the client receiving a key pair. Spies discloses an authentication system where once a user is authenticated, they receive a public/private key pair (Abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a public/private key pair in the personal

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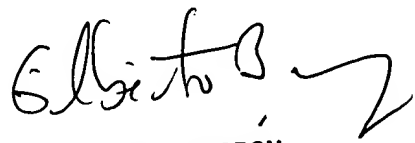
key archive of Linehan in order to accommodate both point-of-access authentication and authentication between participants who communicate over a network as taught in Spies (Col. 1, lines 44-50).

*Conclusion*

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin E Lanier whose telephone number is (703)-305-7684. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th from 7:30am to 5:00pm, and F from 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron, can be reached on (703)-305-1830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)-746-7239, after final (703)-746-7238, or non-official/draft (703)-746-7240.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

  
GILBERTO BARRON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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